

Volunteer Role Description

Our board is made up of volunteers and we're looking to welcome additional members to our advisory board, here at Healthwatch Tameside.

Advisory Board Member

As a Healthwatch Tameside Board member you will play a role in setting the strategic direction of Healthwatch Tameside, ensuring that the Healthwatch Tameside vision, aims, and values are upheld. The Healthwatch Tameside Board is accountable to Action Together, the organisation that holds the contract to provide Healthwatch in Tameside and is in place to ensure the delivery of an effective Healthwatch in line with legislation.

To find out more about **Action Together**, visit <https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/>

Why should you be a Healthwatch Board member?

Healthwatch Tameside is the only champion for people who use health and social care services in Tameside. We have a vital role to play in ensuring people in Tameside are engaged, listened to and provided with an avenue to tell us their views and opinions.

By people sharing their experiences with us, we can bring these to health and care providers and decision makers in Tameside to influence services to make them better.

As a valued board member, you will play a crucial role in making sure the way that Healthwatch Tameside is governed. Good governance leads to good delivery.

We need your skills, abilities, knowledge and experiences to be the best we can be.








What will the role involve?

-  Having a clear understanding of the role of Healthwatch and working with other Healthwatch advisory Board members and staff team to plan, review, evaluate and oversee Healthwatch Tameside.
-  Being accountable for Healthwatch delivery and ensuring the service adheres to its purpose, acts in the best interest of the host organisation, manages resources appropriately and complies with the services governing document and the law.
-  Producing a Business Plan and Strategy with Healthwatch Tameside Manager.
-  As an advisory Board member, be accountable for holding Board responsibilities linked to the Healthwatch contract.
-  Uphold the Healthwatch brand by adhering to Healthwatch values and behaviour whilst minimising and mitigating risks to delivery and reputation.
-  Having a clear understanding of the responsibilities as a Board member, and expectations as an individual member and collectively as a Board. This will include attending at least two Board meetings per annum.







Personal specification/requirements

We're looking for people that are passionate about making a positive change to health and social care services in Tameside. We want to ensure that the Healthwatch Tameside board collectively, has a range of experiences.

If you have experience in any of the following, we'd love to hear from you.

-  Do you have a specific interest in health and social care?
-  Do you have experience delivering public services, particularly within a health and social care environment?
-  Have you managed an information or advice service for members of the public?
-  Do you have experience in managing care or residential nursing home services?
-  Perhaps you've managed or led an organisation or social enterprise?
-  Do you have experience in working with children or young people?
-  Have you got experience in engagement with residents, or seldom-heard groups?

If you feel that you have something to contribute from at least one of these areas and would like to be considered for an appointment on the board, please do consider applying. Additionally, we ask that our board members hold the following skills:

-  Ability to work as a team with other volunteers and staff.
-  Effective communication skills and ability to ask questions, listen well and provide challenge when needed and when appropriate.
-  Decision making skills.
-  Be comfortable volunteering from home and using online meeting platforms e.g. Zoom or Microsoft Teams (training can be provided in the latter).
-  Respect and ability to keep confidentiality.
-  A commitment to participate in an appraisal system and complete administrative tasks *i.e.*, *timesheets*.

How will we support you?

As well as the Healthwatch Tameside volunteer handbook, you will have regular contact with a member of the Healthwatch team to provide you with support and guidance throughout. You'll receive full training including a Board member induction and be part of a team who'll make sure your volunteering experience is positive.

How much time is involved?

The Healthwatch Tameside advisory board meets once every two months for two hours. You will also need to set a few hours aside a month for reading and preparing for the meeting. If you become a member of a sub- group or committee this will require an extra time commitment.

Apply now

Complete the expression of interest form and return:

By email: info@healthwatchtameside.co.uk

By post: Healthwatch Tameside, 131 Katherine Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7AW

The closing date for applications is **Saturday 31st May 2025**

Have a question?

If you need support with your application or have any questions about the opportunity, please get in touch by email at info@healthwatchtameside.co.uk or call 0161 667 2526.

What next?

Your expression of interest form will be read by our panel, and an interview will be offered to potential candidates as soon as mutually convenient.

Interviews are scheduled to take place between **16th – 27th June 2025**

Thank you for your interest in supporting the work of **Healthwatch Tameside**.